

Family Support 360  
People Leading Accessible Networks of Support (PLANS)  
Statewide Workgroup  
September 13, 2007  
Pierre, SD  
Capitol Lake Visitor's Center

Travis Arneson brought the meeting to order at 8:35.



**Members Present:**

Travis Arneson  
Kristin Blatchke  
Mike Broderick  
Vikki Day  
Melissa Flor  
Beth Hosek  
Dawn Kellogg  
Janet Lemhkuhl (for Sharon Sonnenschein)  
Kristi Heumiller

Renetta Marlow (for Wanda Seiler)  
Tim Neyhart  
Ted Williams  
Jennifer Seale  
Brenda Smith  
Danny Spotted Eagle  
Cindy Taber  
Ronda Williams

**Others Present:**

Edith Arneson  
Twyla Eggers  
Jean-Claire Hamblin  
Beth Henrichsen  
Terri Sass  
Betsy Valnes  
Brooke Lusk

Kristin Kiner  
Arlene Poncelet  
Megan Potts (Danny's PA)  
Yvonne Reynolds  
Julie Johnson-Dresbach  
Kris Killeas  
Deb Petersen

**Introductions:**

Each workgroup member introduced themselves and stated where they are from.



**Announcements:**

Cindy Taber announced that she is in the process of purchasing a home. Congratulations, Cindy!

The Division of Developmental Disabilities has a few new staff. Lori Martinec, Program Specialist, Pauline Erbele, RN, Program Specialist, and Carla Wagner, RN, Program Specialist introduced themselves. Renetta Marlow is the Assistant Director for the division. She grew up in Redfield, and has worked at SDDC. She moved to Washington State and worked in the field for a number of years, and recently came back to SD.

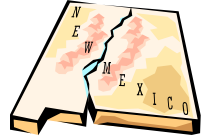


**Administration on Development Disabilities (ADD) Technical Assistance Conference**

Travis Arneson, Deb Petersen, and Jean-Claire Hamblin attended the ADD Technical Assistance Conference in Albuquerque, NM this past summer. They gave a brief overview of their experiences. It seems that South Dakota is doing a great job in a lot of

areas when compared to other states. South Dakota is being looked as a leader because we have been able to sustain our grant programs after the grant money has ended. Hawaii has some similar issues that South Dakota has related to the rural areas of the states. In HI, people must be transported by plane from island to island. They are currently working on a ferry system to get people back and forth. HI does have a good website: [www.realchoices.org](http://www.realchoices.org). Travis asked that the group review this website to see if it would be possible to adapt it to SD. Hawaii is being considered as the location for the next TA conference.

ADD is asking SD to present at the next conference. Brooke would like ideas about topics. She suggested sustainability, and resources.



Travis rode on the same bus as ADD Commissioner Morrissey. He learned a lot about where the money comes from, how projects are funded, and how SD compares to other states. He asked for assistance on problems he sees in SD. She thinks SD is doing very, very well compared to other states. Other states are having problems finding their “niche.” SD seems to know what that is. She contributes that to us being a rural state.

### **Person-Centered Thinking Training**

Brooke presented information regarding the Person-Centered Thinking training that PLANS sponsored. The PLANS project hosted Michael Smull, who is a Person Centered Thinking trainer and a Good to Great trainer. The training was open to a variety of organizations, as well as people who support people with disabilities. 86 people registered, and 78 completed the training. The two-day training was held in Chamberlain in August. Family Support 360 Coordinators and ATC staff that participated spoke very positively about the training. They were glad they had the opportunity to attend. SD is currently working to get trainers in the state so we don’t have to bring in outside trainers in the future.



This training is truly about looking at people supported and how we can best assist them to achieve their goals. Kristin Kiner uses some of the tools that Michael distributed. She discussed the planning process and learning logs for the workgroup.

Kristin Blatchke said that a person that works with her invited Kristin to her planning meeting. She also shared this information at a staff meeting because she is so excited, and wants everybody to start using the tools.

More information can be found at [www.elpnet.net](http://www.elpnet.net).

Brooke thinks that these tools can be used for planning for projects also. She plans to use the tools with projects that she’s involved with.

It was requested to have CES look at adding a “learning log” piece to the time cards to capture that information that is usually captured on a learning log. Then make a report that can be ran whenever it is needed.



## **Demonstration of Website Changes**

Betsy distributed copies of a draft of the PLANS website. Brooke asked for comments by September 27.

The Continuing Education Committee met and discussed the organization of the website following the Core Stakeholders meeting on 9/12. They are interested in making the website more user-friendly for anyone who visits the division's or the department's website. There is a website currently in place called SD Connect [sdconnect.sd.gov](http://sdconnect.sd.gov) that is searchable by service, agency, etc. This website, however, currently only houses DHS, DOH, and DSS information. All state agencies will eventually be part of this. The workgroup discussed the draft that Betsy distributed.

Betsy asked the group if they would like their personal information on the website. Brooke will develop a release with a checklist of information so each member can choose what information they want on the website.



## **College of Direct Support (CDDS) Module Changes and Usage by PLANS**

Betsy distributed hand-outs for people to refer to. She spoke to the group giving an update and review about the classes and participation.

There are 21 PLANS registrants, but only 3 are currently participating. Many people are not accessing this, but that is largely due to computer access.

Vikki Day's son participated in CDS with his special ed teacher. It was a very positive experience.

Teri had a person who wanted to do it at school, and the school didn't think that would be a good use of time.

Terri asked if there could be monetary reward for someone completing the program. Ted has been trying to work this in at SDDC, but BOP is not receptive. SDDC is rewarding people with certificates, recognition, and promotions. VOA pays their employees time to take the courses, and the completion is noted during annual evaluations.

PLANS does not pay for the administration costs for CDS. The agencies that employ the coordinators each pay a fee and the DD Council has given money for CDS. Anybody on the PLANS workgroup can have access to the courses; let Brooke know if you are interested.

Travis suggested forming a task force with Tom Scheinost and whoever else is interested to discuss the issue of increasing the number of people who take the courses.

Brooke will talk to transition staff and work on promoting CDS in schools.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> PLANS Program**

Deb announced that VOA has been awarded the 4<sup>th</sup> PLANS program. They have interviewed and hired a Coordinator for the SE part of the state. Chad Hindberg has been selected. He will be located in the same office as Julie & Kristin. Deb distributed maps with new county areas. Kristin's program will be named SE1 and Chad's will be SE2.

Julie mentioned that serving 40 people is too high of a caseload number. She would like that to be reviewed and suggested 30 as a better number. Terri suggested 35.

Deb also distributed the new PLANS brochure-notice the heart on the front vs. the PLANS logo. She also distributed resource coordinator contact information.



Department of Labor (DOL) has hired navigators stationed in several career centers across the state. They will be coming to Pierre in October for training-Chad will participate. The Navigators are focusing on people with disabilities who come into career centers, referring them to the appropriate service provider. Ronda hopes this brings a closer relationship between Division of Rehabilitation Services & DOL.

#### **Continued Quality Discussion**

The Division of Developmental Disabilities participated in CQL training recently with regard to outcomes. They are currently looking at what CMS requires, and trying to link CQL outcomes to these.

They are also working with family support coordinators to figure out how to make this work best with coordinator's time because outcome measures are more time-consuming. With PLANS workgroup comments, looking at CQL Outcome measures, other states, and tools that Donna has been using, the goal is to develop a tool to make reviews easier, yet fits into CMS requirements. The new family support rules will also work into this. The new tool will be available for the next meeting.

#### **Core Stakeholders Update**

Brenda Smith gave an update on the Core Stakeholders. They met on 9/12 from 1-5. The majority of their discussion was around independent support coordination (ISC) and Good to Great (G2G) activities. The ISC pilot was awarded to VOA in Sioux Falls and ADVANCE in Brookings. Seven coordinators will be available to people who are receiving HCBS services (DD waiver) that choose to have an ISC. Eight participants have indicated they would like to choose an ISC. Participants will be interviewing ISC's in October to choose who they want to provide their services. Northern Hills Training Center, ECCO, and Life Quest talked to the group about the G2G activities and the impact the program has had on their agency. Each agency took different approaches to implementing the project in their agency. It's been very positive and is making a difference in people's lives.



Brooke reported that an ATC director who is involved in G2G and Agency with Choice would like to do a presentation at the next meeting about their involvement with these two programs if the group would like to hear that.

The group also revisited their purpose.

### **Luncheon Meeting with the Board of Vocational Rehabilitation**

BVR holds public meetings every year, but they are trying to reach out to groups that are currently meeting on a regular basis to get feedback from them about services, and improvements that can be made.

Positive comments were shared, and this seemed to be a good use of time.

### **Sub-committees**

Brooke asked the group to talk about three things during their meetings: current happenings, the website, subcommittees for next year. Some possible subcommittees are: supported employment, mental health, and family strengthening.

#### *Housing*

Presentations have been completed across the state. 850 home ownership guides have been distributed. The committee is looking into a presentation or having booklets available at the Youth Leadership Forum (YLF). They will be making the booklets available to realtors, and will have a booth at the SD Housing Conference. Success stories will be available for newsletters. They plan to gather renter's info into a pamphlet for resources to be distributed to people looking to rent. They discussed information for the PLANS website. The group would like to brainstorm more ideas for use of the College for Direct Support.



#### *Transportation*

Asked Shelly Pfaff to present regarding the United We Ride Initiative-she should be available for the next meeting. They would like to have some information available for distribution for People First chapters. This group would like to look at what other arenas are working on so work is not being duplicated. This group would like to see family strengthening or self-advocacy as a next sub committee. The group has information they will be adding to the website.



#### *Continuing Education*

This group met on 9/12 to give Wanda ideas and direction for better access through the DDD website. They decided there is not a good way to end continuing education. They want to help people understand self-directed supports, help people hire and be their own employees, educate people to manage their own healthcare, talk about education to businesses and employers about hiring people with disabilities. This group talked about each of the other proposed sub-committees, and talked about them through an education perspective, because they feel that continuing education doesn't end.



The next sub-committee topics were discussed. They will be: Family Strengthening, Mental Health, and Supported Employment. Self-advocacy and CDS Incentives were taken off after further discussion. It was decided that self-advocacy should be a part of all discussions. CDS Incentives may be better handled as a meeting topic.

Supported Employment committee: Tim Neyhart, Ronda Williams, Brenda Smith, Vikki Day, Arlene Poncelet, Yvonne Reynolds, Danny Spotted Eagle, Dawn Kellogg

Mental Health committee: Jean-Claire Hamblin, Renetta Marlow (Wanda), Julie Johnson-Dresbach, Ted Williams, Twyla Eggers, Kris Killeas, Jennifer Seale

Family Strengthening committee: Kristin Kiner, Janet Lehmkuhl (Sharon), Teri Sass, Mike Broderick, Kristi Heumiller, Beth Hosek, Cindy Taber, Kristen Blaschke

Project staff will be assigned to each sub-committee and the sub-committees will convene at the next meeting.

### **Toolbox for Coordinators**

People have requested information about gathering resources for accessing services. Deb distributed some hand-outs regarding employment. A Transition Tacklebox has been put together by the Transition Services Liaison Project. It can also be viewed online at [www.tslp.org](http://www.tslp.org). Brooke asked the group for ideas as to what could be added. If you run across documents, feel free to forward them on, and they can be added.



### **Next Agenda Items**

- Revisit Path Plan that was completed
- G2G presentations from participating agencies
- United We Ride

### **Next Meeting Date**

December 12 & 13, Sioux Falls or Rapid City

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:25.